EXCERPTED

Personalities

By Chuck Conconi Washington Post Staff Writer

Former president Richard Nixon settled comfortably into the Trump Shuttle Monday afternoon. He had kunched with President Bush and other senior officials, discussing his recent trip to the Soviet Union. Nixon looked up to the sound of a familiar voice telling the ex-president's private security guard, "I think I know that guy." The two men did indeed know each other: The voice belonged to former senator George McGovern, the man he resoundingly defeated in 1972.

Nixon moved across the aisle to sit with McGovern, who said yesterday that, along with the former president's trip to the Soviet Union and other things, they talked about the possibility of McGovern's making another run at the big job, 20 years later. "He told me he thinks [New York Gov. Mario] Cuomo is the strongest possibility for the Democrats," Mc-Govern said. As for McGovern's running, he said Nixon's advice was that if McGovern had something to say and thought he could be heard and was willing to take the hassling, "it made sense to go for it." McGovern said he won't make his final decision until he speaks at the National Press Club May 23. Whatever the case, the Washington-New York shuttle does bring together some unusual seat-mates.

Out and About

Several of his former colleagues from the Hill, and a number of members of the Bush Cabinet he so wanted to be a part of, will be at a memorial service tomorrow at Arlington National Cemetery amphitheater for John Tower, who was killed nearly three weeks ago in a plane crash in which his daughter Marian also died. The former Texas senator was buried in Dallas. Among the guests expected are Tower's surviving daughters, Penelope and Jeanne, and Vice President Quayle. The administration officials include CIA Director William Webster, Commerce Secretary Robert Mosbacher, Defense Secretary Dick Cheney, FBI Director William Sessions, Energy Secretary James Watkins and Education Secretary Lamar Alexander; and from the Hill, Sens. William Cohen, John McCain, Phil Gramm and Minority Leader Robert Dole.

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